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Perrysburg, Ohio.

The First Methodist Church

Perrysburg, Ohio

125th Anniversary

1820 - 1945

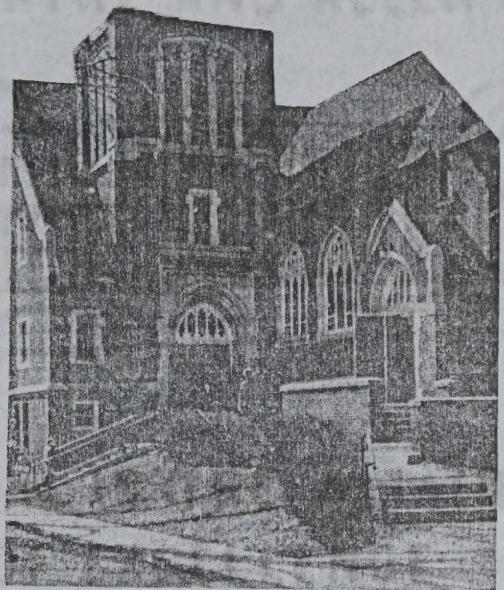


OUR GOAL IS THE ATTAINMENT
OF EXCELLENCE

The Mother Church of Methodism
In the Maumee Valley

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The First Methodist Church, Perrysburg, Ohio
The New Building Dedicated in 1931

FIRST METHODIST CHURCH

PERRYSBURG, OHIO

125th Anniversary

September 9-16, 1945

Rev. Gerald Smith, Editor

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MINISTERS IN CHARGE



Bishop H. Lester Smith, D.D. LL.D
Resident Bishop, Ohio Area



Frank Bringle McIntosh
A.B., S.T.B., D.D.
Toledo Dist. Superintendent



Cecil Daniel Smith
A.B., S.T.B., M.R.E.
Minister

History of the First Methodist Church

Perrysburg, Ohio

The Mother Church of Methodism in the Maumee Valley

By Dr. D. R. Canfield and the Rev. Cecil D. Smith

The history of Methodism in Perrysburg runs parallel to that of the early pioneers in the Maumee Valley of northwest Ohio. Occasional services were held in this locality by Methodists previous to the War of 1812, indicating that some early settlers from the East were of Methodist "persuasion."

Foremost among these was Major Amos Spafford, who came from Vermont and Cleveland and settled on what became known as the "Spafford Grant", just west of Ft. Meigs in 1810. He was appointed postmaster and collector of the Port of Miami, Erie District. ("Maumee" is a corruption of

the original Indian name of Miami, which was pronounced more like it is now spelled.) The Major thus became the civil and commercial leader of the new settlement. He was the first settler to build a cabin and settle permanently in Wood County. At the foot of the bluff below his homestead, on the river flat, a little hamlet of ten or twelve buildings arose, to bear the ambitious name of "Orleans of the North." In the Spafford home and in Orleans began the work of Methodism in the Maumee Valley, which has now spread to almost every town and village in northwestern Ohio.



"The Itinerant Pathfinder Crossing the Maumee"

From a painting by Dr. N.B.C. Love

[Major Amos Spafford was the first permanent settler of Methodist "persuasion" in the Maumee Valley. As the first postmaster, he was authorized to name the town of Perrysburg.]

In 1812 Governor Hull was defeated by the British and Indians at Detroit and surrendered the entire Michigan Territory. Major Spafford was then forced to flee with his family to Huron on Lake Erie. Escaping hastily by boat, they looked back to see the smoke rising from their burning cabin.



The Rev. James B. Finley
Lebanon Dist. Presiding Elder, 1820
Perrysburg Pastor, 1830-31

The Black Swamp, with its dense forests and swamps, its gnats and mosquitoes, its chills and fevers, was deserted by all the settlers and left to the hostile Indians.

General William Henry Harrison was then placed in command of the Western Army and came down the Maumee to build and make Ft. Meigs his headquarters. In 1813 his forces, twice besieged, were re-enforced by volunteers from Ohio and Kentucky and resumed the offensive.

Meanwhile Captain Oliver H.

Perry of Rhode Island was preparing a fleet at Presqu' Isle (now Erie.) At Put-in-Day, in August, 1813, he won his notable victory and sent his laconic dispatch to Harrison: "We have met the enemy and they are ours; two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop." Harrison, aided by 3500 Kentucky troops under Governor Shelby in person, pursued the retreating enemy into Canada, defeated them at the River Thames, won back all that Hull had lost, and put an end to the dangers of Indian raids. Major Spafford returned in August, 1815, with other settlers, but had to organize them against isolated Indian attacks.

In 1816 the federal government sent surveyors to the foot of the Maumee Rapids to lay out a village in honor of Commodore Perry. They chose a site on a bluff above the Maumee River to the east of Ft. Meigs, and laid it out one mile square with wide streets parallel to the river, which runs almost directly from southwest to northeast across the map. The site is about fifteen miles above the mouth of the Maumee and ten miles above the present city of Toledo. A beautiful marble monument, the gift of the City of Cleveland, stands at the main junction of highways, in honor of the hero of Lake Erie from whom the town of Perrysburg gets its name. As the first postmaster Major Spafford was commissioned by U.S. Land Commissioner and former Ohio governor Josiah Meigs, to name the village, which was done in 1816.

THE FIRST SOCIETY

In 1819 the Rev. John P. Kent of the Genesee Conference (N.Y.)

The first Perrysburg Methodist Society was formed in the fall of 1820. Aurora Spafford was the class leader. Members: Sarah Wilkinson, John Knowles and William Kelly.

was appointed to the Detroit Circuit, by the Rev. W. Case, presiding elder of the Upper Canada District. Orleans was the southernmost point of his circuit, which embraced all of the southern portion of Michigan Territory and a portion of northwestern Ohio and northeastern Indiana.

In August, 1820, the Rev. James B. Finley, in charge of the Lebanon District of the Ohio Conference, sent a young local preacher by the name of Platt B. Morey into the Maumee Valley to assist in the organization of Methodism. Kent and Morey met at Perrysburg and worked together. On the rounds of their circuit they preached at the spacious home of Jacob Wilkinson in Orleans, at the schoolhouse half way up the hill at Ft. Meigs, in a room above John Hollister's store in Orleans and at the Spafford cabin which was considered Methodist headquarters for the Maumee Valley.

In September of 1820 these two pioneer circuit riders organized the First Methodist Society in the form of a class under the leadership of Aurora Spafford. Sarah Wilkinson, John Knowles and William Kelley were the three members. The next year Aurora Spafford transferred his membership from the newly organized Presbyterian Church to the new Methodist society, of which he had become the first class leader. Morey contracted malaria from his journeys through the swamps of the circuit and died in December of 1821 at the age of 26 years.

Thus two streams of pioneer Methodism merged here--one from that stream of immigrants which poured through lower Canada and the Western Reserve along the southern shore of

Lake Erie; and the other coming up from the southeast in that earlier settlement of the Northwest Territory which used the Ohio River for its highway.

With the rapid influx of settlers following the peace treaty of Ghent, in 1815, the number of preaching places increased steadily. The westward-bound pioneers came through Perrysburg on horseback, in wagons, and on foot, over the mud road from Sandusky, which was often a quagmire.

Hull's Trace was the one open route through the Black Swamp from the south. By 1826 the Monroe Circuit separated



Mr. Peter Cranker
Class Leader and Trustee, 1843-'77

from the Detroit Circuit, when the Rev. John A. Baughman was in charge. The next year, 1827, came the Rev. George W. Walker, whose outstanding labors were recorded in a biography of him written by Maxwell P. Gaddis in 1857. From this history we learn that Baughman had sixteen preaching

Two streams of pioneer Methodism met here at Perrysburg. John P. Kent represented the northern stream, via the Great Lakes; Platt B. Morey, the southern stream, via Kentucky and the Ohio River.

places, including Ann Arbor and Ypsilanti, Hubbard's (which became Collingwood Methodist Church of Toledo), Perrysburg and Waterville. To these Walker added many others, including Spaffords and Fort Meigs, forty-four in all.

From 1820 on, the Methodist Ohio Conference took over the major responsibility for the territory, including the Monroe Circuit of the Detroit District. A new Maumee District was organized in 1834 with the Monroe Circuit included.

The village of Perrysburg grew as Orleans and Ft. Meigs declined. Ft. Miami similarly gave way to the village of Maumee. The river was crossed by ferry, pulled by cable on a windlass.

Perrysburg was on the main road to the West, and provided many taverns for the weary travelers. Some of them rested here over the Sabbath and attended the meetings, held in the little schoolhouse across from the present church site on Second St. Class meetings were held in various homes in the village.

The Perrysburg Circuit "was divided from the Monroe Circuit at the Ohio Conference of 1835, and includes the towns of Perrysburg, Maumee, Waterville, and about twenty miles extent of country along the Maumee River west of the foot of the Rapids." Other points were Gilead

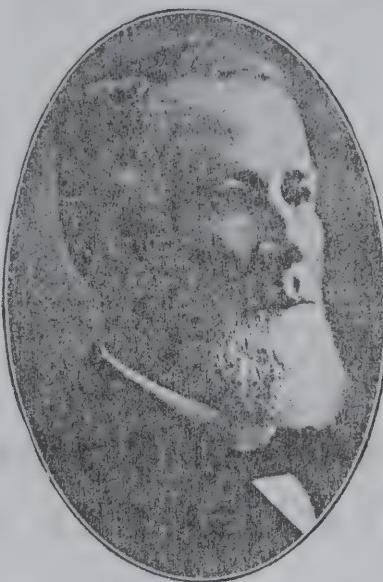
(now Grand Rapids), Bell's School (Plain Twp.) Sargeants, Beaver Creek (now Pemberville), Stony Ridge, Oregon, Bowling Green, Tontogany, Tous-saint, Portage and Woodville. This circuit had its own presiding elder, who held quarterly conferences and supervised the classes as they grew into congregations and churches. In 1836 the 16 preaching places on the circuit had a membership of 129, which was doubled by 1839.

Among those regarded as prominent Methodists within this large circuit we find the names of the following in the records of 1836, some of whose descendants are present members of the ensuing churches:

Aurora Spafford, Henry Darling, Owen B. Coffin, Ephraim B. Kimball, Joseph Spangler, L. Rumsey, Jacob Meecham, John Sargeant, Benjamin J. Lewis, Elijah Fate.

Peter Laney, John Hale, W.W. Hovey, John McNeese, Peter Cranker, William Houston, John Bamber, Samuel Douglas, Ambrose Anthony, John Hodge David Jones, Joshua Chappell, Thomas R. Tracy, Emanuel Arnold, Joshua Woods, James LaFarree, John Fowler, Samuel Van Horn, Peter Klophenstein, James Coffinberry, Sampson Calkins.

The first Perrysburg Quarterly Meeting of record was held here on Dec. 26, 1835, with the following present: L.B. Gurley, P.E., Henry Darling, Secy.; Cyrus Brooks, Pastor Henry Darling, Steward; Aurora Spaf-



Rev. Nathaniel B.C. Love
Pastor 1872-75

[Dr. H.B.C. Love's painting of "The Wyandot Mission" at Upper Sandusky becomes our permanent memorial to him, given by his daughter, Mrs. Emma Eberly.]

ford, Owen B. Coffin, and Ephraim B. Kimball, class leaders; Thos. Gleason and John Sargent, circuit stewards. This conference reported: "Total collected from Perrysburg and Maumee classes: \$137.78 3/4; extra collection, \$2.51; total, \$140.29 3/4. Amount paid Minister and Presiding Elder, \$140.78 3/4; deficit at end of year, \$49."

THE FIRST CHURCH BUILDING

In 1835, the "Toledo War" between the Territory of Michigan and the State of Ohio over the boundary line, drew the Michigan Militia to the site of Sylvania and the Ohio troops, numbering about 600, under Governor Lucas, to the site of Toledo and to Perrysburg. Cyrus Brooks, the Methodist preacher, spoke to large crowds daily at the schoolhouse.

Six days after the Governor arrived, the Presiding Elder, L.B. Gurley, bounted the time propitious for building a church. So he drew up an instrument appointing the first trustees for the church

and named Aurora Spafford and Henry Darling to the board. A few days later the names of James LaFarrer, Josiah L. Craine and Samuel T. Wilson were added. These trustees purchased for \$300 a building site at Walnut and Second Streets, pay-

ing double the price for which the owner had bought it earlier the same year.

The Presiding Elder was a zealous and eloquent young preacher. He knew Governor Lucas to be a loyal Methodist. At the close of one of the services, he called on the Governor to close with prayer, and also to bring to the mind of the congregation the need of a new church, and to head the subscription list toward it. The Governor responded encouragingly and \$2500 were soon raised. Spafford gave \$300, Darling \$200, Mr. Hall, a Baptist, gave \$200. The Hollisters, who were Universalists, gave \$100 and \$75 each. The lumber was brought from Canada and the frame building was erected in 1836. It stood on the second lot west from Walnut St. on

the south side of Second St. The Toledo War was settled by the federal government without bloodshed. The Methodists got out of it a new church, saying, "Lucas came down to fight, but Gurley made him pray."



Perrysburg Church built in 1836, enlarged in 1865. Personage built in 1873.

In 1853, while the building was under general repairs, the congregation worshipped in the Baptist Church on Walnut Street. A resolution of warm appreciation was recorded in the minutes of that year.

Sunday schools were organized

Our home-grown preachers: the Reverends Henry Warner of the Michigan Conference; Rolla H. Chubb, pastor here in 1839-40; Mark Richardson and Richard W. Wallace of the Central Ohio Conference.



Rev. Mark Richardson
"Sent Forth" from Perrysburg

in every settlement, and laymen were chosen as teachers, "exhorters, local preachers, class leaders, stewards, etc." to supplement the work of the preachers. The first "Sabbath School" in Perrysburg was organized in 1838 with Henry Darling as Superintendent, 10 officers and teachers, 55 "scholars" and a library of 90 volumes.

In 1842 the local church was made a station. From that time on, except for an 1851 report of classes at the Shaner schoolhouse and Webster, and the Lime City Church in 1887-88, there is no record of outlying appointments. The records show a total of \$204.44 raised that year for "quarterage."

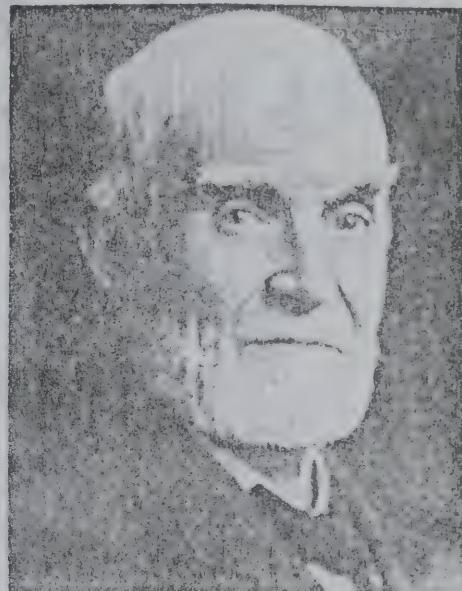
Aurora Spafford had carried the debt on the new church since 1836. In 1844 he generously made out papers relinquishing his claim to an amount which, with interest, came between six and seven hundred dollars. This had been paid by him over and above his subscription to the new church. Spafford lived for five more years and was regarded as a zealous member and a Christian gentlemen and leader through the early years of our church. The 1845 records show John

R. Jewett as pastor and a Sunday school of three superintendents, 13 teachers, 50 "scholars"; and 150 library books.

The Maumee society was organized in 1833, built a frame church in 1837, and was separated from the Perrysburg Circuit in 1839.

THE CHOLERA EPIDEMIC

1854 marked the terrible scourge of cholera, which flared up on July and within ten weeks killed off one tenth of the village population, variously estimated from one to two hun-



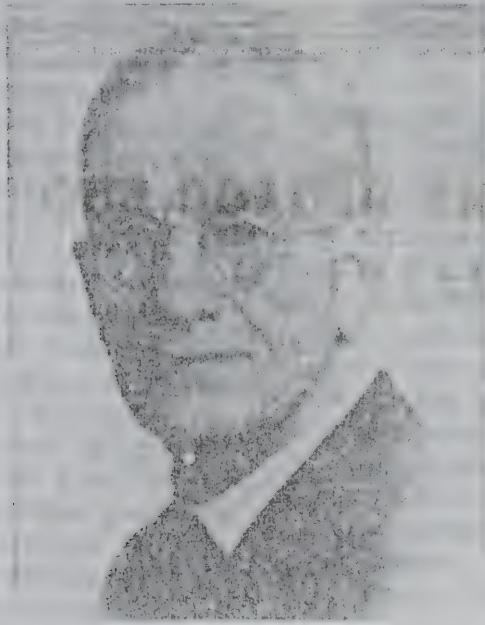
Mr. William Barton
S.S. Superintendent, 1878-98

dred persons lost. The Rev. D.P. Pelton was pastor at the time and led nobly in caring for the sick and the dying. He and his wife took the Lucas lad of six years into the parsonage and nursed him back to health the only survivor of a family of seven. At one service Rev. Pelton called for volunteer nurses. Twelve

[Dr. and Mrs. N.B.C. Love and Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Carter are the only former pastors and wives known to be buried in the Fort Meigs Cemetery.]

"noble and self-sacrificing members responded to the call and during all the terrible six weeks worked day and night when called for."

Mrs. Rebecca McKnight and Mrs. Dowd were among these volunteers and lost their lives in this service. Mrs. Amelia Perrin, daughter of Captain and Mrs. Sarah Williamson, wrote of this tragedy: "The Methodist Church suffered greatly from loss of members. When the epidemic had ceased and the church met for regular services, it was a mournful sight. The vacant pews, the mourning robes, the sad hearts and faces gathered there to return



Mr. John Orin Yeager
S.S. Superintendent, 1916-41

thanks for safety, when so many had been called! With chastened spirits they bowed in submission to this will."

In 1866, during the pastorate of the Rev. Thomas N. Barkdull, the church was reconstructed, with a second story added for a place of worship, the first floor to be used for

Sabbath school; a tall steeple and stained glass windows were added (these windows are now in the chapel at Goodwill Industries Toledo), and a deep-toned bell installed in the belfry.

This bell was Rev. Richard W. Wallace placed in the "Sent Forth" From new church in Perrysburg 1931 and con-

tinues to call the people to school and worship. The cost of these improvements, about \$1500, was covered with pledges. But the hard times following the Civil War caused the subscriptions to shrink, leaving a heavy debt on which the members had to pay interest as high as 15 and 18 percent. "The Ten Year's War", beginning in 1865, over removal of the courthouse to Bowling Green, cost the loss of a number of prominent families and further weakened the church.

During the pastorate of Dr. N.B.C. Love, 1874-'77, a new parsonage was built on the present church site. This frame building was moved to the rear of the new church in 1928. Its cost of \$1600 was covered with pledges, which again shrank, slightly increasing the church debt. In 1880 Dr. W.A. Yingling was able to clear off the discouraging debt, leaving the church with a flourishing congregation of 160 members and 175 in the Sabbath School.

THE NEW CHURCH BUILDING

Following the World War I, agitation increased toward building a new church. Preliminary steps, architec-



[The first 1836 church edifice was named Morris Chapel, after the newly elected Bishop Thomas A. Morris, who had been a presiding elder in the Ohio Conference and editor of "The Western Christian Advocate."]

tural studies, and first pledges were made during the pastorate of the Rev. Wm. H. Spybey. Subscriptions were raised during the two-year pastorate of the Rev. E.A. Strother. The first building committee consisted of Dr. D. R. Canfield, R.R. Hartshorn, Carey Lindsay, T.M. Milligan and Wm. J. Veitch. The question of location was debated pro and con, finally ending with location at the corner site of Walnut and Second

sts. A year later the building committee was enlarged to include Mrs. P.C. Sutter, Mrs. Charles Schneider and Mrs. C.P. Champey, with Wm. J. Veitch as chairman. Dr. Canfield was made chairman of the Finance Committee; Mrs. Sutter, Secretary and T. M. Milligan, Treasurer. It was decided to proceed with the building when \$24,000 in cash and \$24,000 in pledges had been raised. Contracts were let to Britsch and Munger, architects, and to C.A. Degner for construction.

On Sept. 10, 1928, Mrs. Fred Jeppard, oldest living member, turned the first shovelful of ground. On Oct. 21, the cornerstone was laid by Bishop J.F. Berry, the Rev. Sheridan T. Walker then pastor in charge. In 1929 the work was postponed until more money could be raised. A sum of \$20,000 was borrowed from the local Citizen's Banking Company. The Ladies' Aid, having raised their



Mr. William J. Veitch
Pres. Board of Trustees since 1920
and Chairman Building Committee
since 1927

\$10,000 pledge, agreed to carry the interest on this loan, which was steadily reduced and paid off by 1942. Another loan of \$6,000 obtained from the Board of Home Missions and Church Extension, was paid in full on May 1, 1944, and \$4,500 more was covered by local collateral.

The dedication ceremonies were held March 22, 1931, with Bishop Wm. F. Anderson presiding, preaching and raising additional funds. The remaining debt was \$26,000.

During the depression years which followed Mr. Veitch was persevering and patient with subscribers, keeping pledges alive until they could be paid in better times. On Jan. 11, 1945, the last of the debt was paid off, preceding his eightieth birthday and at the beginning of our 125th anniversary year. In 1937, a Hammond organ was installed. The communion table was built by Chester Chappell and M.M. Clark from black walnut timber from the old church. The total cost of the church was around \$82,000.

At this 1945 anniversary year, under the pastorate of the Rev. Cecil D. Smith, the membership was reported to Conference as 528. The Local Church and Annual Conference contributions were \$5,969, and the benevolences \$1,520. In addition, the final \$2,000 were paid on the debt; and \$1836 in pledges, of which \$1,480 was in cash, paid to the Crusade

Aurora Spafford and Mrs. Mary Jones were the first couple in Wood County to be married according to the laws of the State of Ohio. They had to send to Urbana for a license, in 1817.

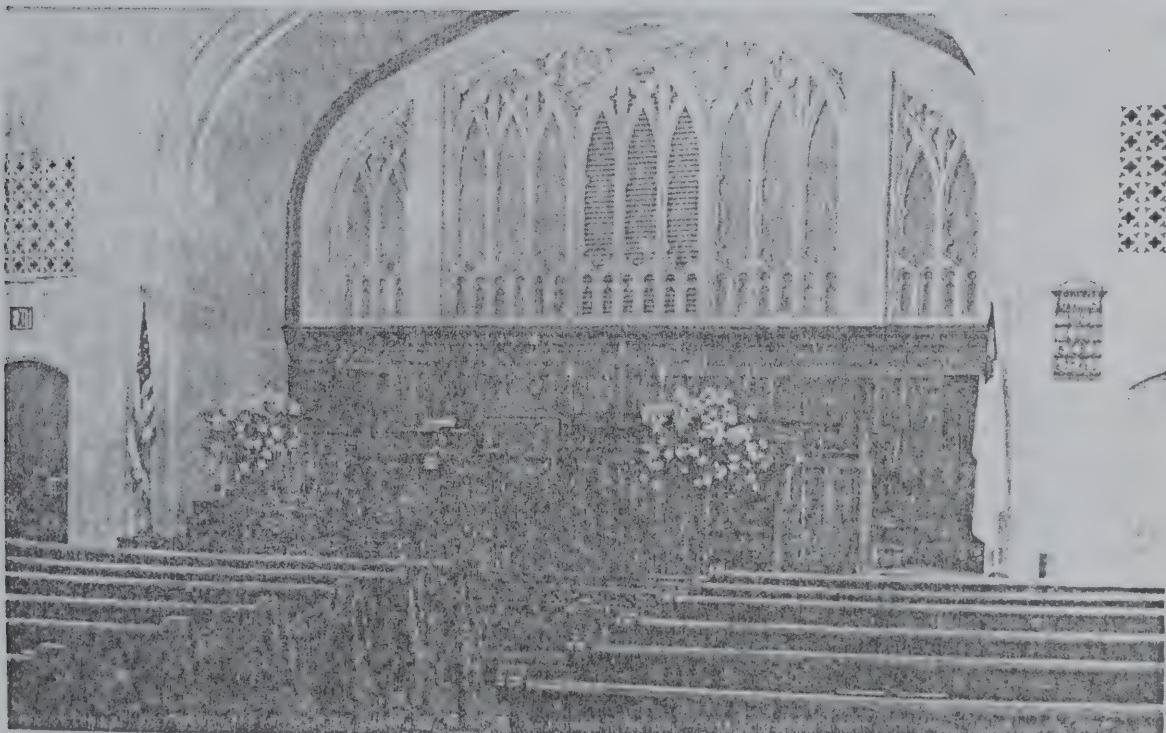
Relief Fund. Total contributions for the year were \$10,969, the best general financial year on our 125-year record.

"SENT FORTH" FROM PERRYSBURG

The evangelistic spirit of the Church was reflected in the number of ministers sent forth into full-time service. The earliest was the Rev. Henry Warner, who came from the east in 1835 to visit his father and transferred his membership here in 1836. The next year he was given a license to exhort, and in 1838 licensed to preach, and was received into the Michigan Conference for regular work. For 21 years he labored faithfully. On retirement he and his wife returned to Perrysburg in 1874. An account of 1888 described them as "living epistles, seen and read of all."

The Rev. Hollis H. Chubb was pastor here in 1839-40 when the Perrysburg Church was separated from the Monroe Circuit and made the head of a circuit of its own. After many years in serving various pastorates, he retired, taking the superannuated relation. He made Perrysburg his home until a few years before his death. He passed away at Delaware after becoming librarian at Ohio Wesleyan University.

In 1844 the name of Mark Richardson first appears on the minutes of this Church. He was born in Ireland and came here in his early youth. He was given a license to preach here, and was ordained as a local elder, holding this relation for fifty years. He served many churches in the Maumee Valley and died at Maumee



Chancel of the New Church

in 1897. "He had an impressive personality, an excellent voice, an accurate memory, and was a ready and forceful speaker. He drew large congregations and preached by request at Annual and District Conferences and Lakeside Chautauqua Assembly and other large meetings."

The Rev. Richard W. Wallace was another home-grown minister, who entered the Conference in 1871 and retired from active service in 1911. After serving for 26 years he became superintendent of the State School for the Blind in Columbus. Returning to the pastorate, he served ten more years in four different Toledo churches. Under his pastorate the present churches at Fostoria and Epworth, Marion, were erected. His record shows that he built six new churches and one parsonage, rebuilt two churches; received into the church 3,643 persons; married 1,604 couples and conducted 3,600 funerals. His father and mother and relatives have been active members in this church.

PROMINENT LAYMEN

This church has been blessed throughout its history with the faithful service of many outstanding laymen, beginning with Major Amos Spafford, who did not live to see his dream fulfilled. The mantle fell on his son, Aurora, who was the first class leader in 1820, the first trustee, the largest contributor to the first church, and a highly respected leader in civic affairs.

The second named trustee was Henry Darling, whose spencerian handwriting is preserved in the records he made of the earliest Quarterly Conferences, for which he served as secretary. He was the first "Sabbath School" superintendent and a steward for many years.

Peter Cranker was one of the earliest members, serving as a class leader and trustee for nearly thirty-five years. "His house was at all times a home for the preachers, in the times when they often found such a refuge very desirable. Liberal in support of the church; faithful in his admonitions as a class leader; sincere, earnest and faithful in his Christian example, he has entered into his rest, and his works follow him."

Joshua Chappell was another pioneer class leader for many years. Soundly converted from an intemperate life, he was ever ready to testify to the saving grace of God. His life fully exemplified his profession thereafter. "He became an earnest, practical Christian, inflexible in his purpose to uphold the truth and to honor God." His descendants still carry the name of Chappell on our records, and continue his service to the Church.

A.G. Williams likewise served many years as a trustee and steward, and was honored as delegate to Annual and General Conferences. Generous in support of the Church, he was equally helpful in counsel and in the work of the official board. His son Russell and grandchildren still live to carry on the tradition of loyal interest and service.

J.S. Ellis "was converted to God early in life, and for more than a quarter of a century was identified with our church as trustee, steward and superintendent of the Sabbath School. "The sense of duty to God and the Church inspired him in all his relations as a Christian professor. He was always, when at home and able, found at his post in the church, quiet in manner, unobtrusive in deportment, but always ready to advance the cause which he so much loved. He died after a long illness in 1888, rejoicing in the gospel of Christ and trusting in Him."

The German Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in Perrysburg in 1861, with the Rev. Nast of Cincinnati dedicating their commodious new church on West Indiana Avenue that same fall. It was composed mostly of German residents who preferred to worship in their old-world language. Capt. John J. Yeager, native of Alsace and veteran of the Civil War, was the most influential leader of this church. His son, John, transferred with remaining members to the English-speaking Methodist Church before the close of the last century.

William Barton became superintendent of the school in 1878 and served with ability and faithfulness for twenty years. Under his leadership the school attendance was built up from 125 to 160 enrolled. During those years he was the wheelhorse of the church, carrying much of the responsibility for the finances as well as educational work.

He was succeeded in the superintendency by William Veitch and Charles Schneider. The latter served also as financial secretary and now continues his faithful service as benevolence treasurer. In 1916 John Yeager became superintendent of the Sunday School, serving until his death in 1941. He was progressive and informal in methods, building up interest and attendance. Under his leadership the school raised \$3500 for the building fund. Many remember him for his noble Christian spirit and influence.

Among many others who deserve mention with these veterans is William J. Veitch. First as teacher of the men's class and steward in 1892; then as chairman of the board of trustees and building committee for the new church in 1927, he has been serving his church for more than fifty years. More than any

other layman, he carried the responsibility for the new church building and for its care since erection. To him belongs large credit for steadily whittling down of the debt, until now, in his eightieth and the church's 125th year, the debt is wiped out and the church stands free of encumbrance. Following a long hospital seige this year, he is again able to take his wonted place at the church door, to welcome the Sunday-school pupils and worshippers.

WOMEN'S WORK

The reorganized women's work of the Church, under the leadership of Mrs. Howard Cummins, President of the Woman's Society of Christian Service, is carrying on the work of the former women's missionary societies and Ladies' Aid. The membership is 123, with 25 additional in the Wesleyan Service Build. Gone are the years when the women worked hard and long in serving dinners to raise their large pledges to the church building projects. Now their interests can be broadened to include more missionary and benevolent projects outside the local church. They are dedicating the newly equipped church parlor to the pioneer women who stood faithfully, though less conspicuously, beside the men to uphold this Church through the many years.

The Mary W. Tanneyhill Class has included in its membership at least 130 women, including many with long records of service. It was organized in 1909 with Mrs. Tanneyhill as teacher. She taught it for 35 years, and was succeeded by Mrs. John Yeager. The first money for the new church was raised by this class back in 1916, by picking strawberries. During its history, it has raised three thousand dollars for the church, besides many other benevolences. The Win-A-Couple Class also has made appreciable contributions to the work. Mrs. Clara (Grant) Holbrook and Mrs. Bess (R.R.) Hartshorn served

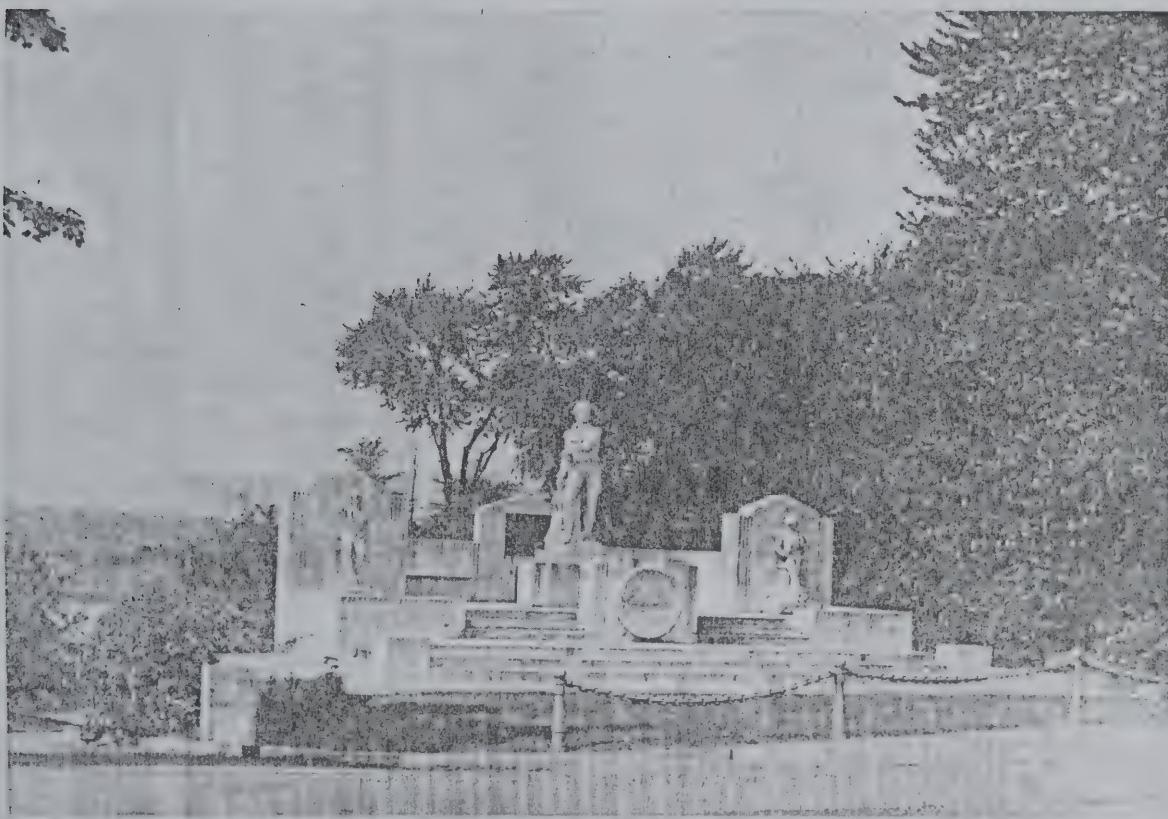
for many years as Sunday School teachers, and have been an inspiration to many of our young people.

THE PRESENT PROGRAM

James McCauley succeeded to the superintendency of the church school in 1941. The present enrollment is 298, including Cradle Roll and Home Departments. Four separate departments, with plans for a fifth, are conducted each Sunday, under the direction of 20 officers and teachers. A Youth Fellowship and an Intermediate Fellowship have been organized and have been active in varied and interesting ways. More than \$620 was raised for lesson materials and benevolences during the past year. In addition, the Board of Education has purchased visual education equipment and

has promoted missionary education through monthly missionary Sundays with a series of additional sessions for children at the worship hour. Leadership training is encouraged in institute schools and conferences. The educational emphasis is on both enrichment and expansion. A year-round program of personal evangelism gears in with other church activities.

Our 125th anniversary year finds the Church stronger and better organized than at any period in its history. With a growing residential community to provide it, a field of service and to increase its constituency, the future years should be bright for a varied program of worship, service, study and fellowship in the name of Christ and to the glory and praise of God.



The Perry Monument

THE PROCESSION OF PERRYSBURG MINISTERS

Orleans Point on the Detroit Circuit

- 1820-21: John P. Kent of the Upper Canada District, Genesee (N.Y.) Conference.
 Platt B. Morey of the Lebanon District, Ohio Conference.
 1822- Alfred Brunson and Samuel Baker.
 1823- Elias Patten and Billings U. Plympton.
 1824- Elias Patten and Isaac C. Hunter.
 1825- John A. Baughman and Solomon Manier.

Perrysburg Point, Monroe Circuit, Detroit District

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1826- John A. Baughman. | 1830-31- James B. Finley |
| 1827- George W. Walker and James Armstrong | 1832- Elijah H. Pilcher and Elnathan |
| 1828- George W. Walker | C. Gavitt. |
| 1829- Jacob Hill. | 1833- E.H. Pilcher and William Sprague. |

Perrysburg Point, Monroe Circuit, Maumee District, Ohio Conference

- 1834- William Sprague and S.F. Southard.

Perrysburg Circuit, Maumee District, Ohio Conference

- 1835- Cyrus Brooks.

Perrysburg Circuit, Maumee District, Michigan Conference

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1836- Orin Mitchell. | 1838- James A. Kellam. |
| 1837- Orin Mitchell and David Burns. | 1839- Rolla H. Chubb and J.W. Bowen. |

Perrysburg Circuit, Maumee District, North Ohio Conference

- 1840- Rolla H. Chubb and Rev. Cacraft. 1841- L. Hill and P. Start.

Perrysburg Station, Maumee District, North Ohio Conference

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 1842- H.S. Bradley | 1846- T. Cooper | 1850- Thomas Parker |
| 1843- J.L. Johnson | 1847- C.H. Owen | 1851-52- Thomas J. Pope |
| 1844- John Jones | 1848- L. Ward | 1852-54- D.P. Pelton |
| 1845- J.B. Jewitt | 1849- John Graham | 1854-55- J.F. Burkholder |
| | 1855- L.D. Rogers | |

Perrysburg Station, Toledo District, Delaware Conference

- 1856- Ambrose Hollington 1857- Supplied 1858-59- Wm. S. Hunt

[James B. Finley, as Lebanon District, Ohio Conference,
 Presiding Elder, in 1820 appointed Platt B. Morey to
 the Maumee Valley. He served Perrysburg as Pastor in
 1830-31. A great orator, evangelist, temperance leader.]

Perrysburg Station, Toledo District, Central Ohio Conference

1860-61- William Fegley	1880-82- W.A. Yingling
1862- S.H. Alderman	1883- J.L. Scott
1863- L.M. Albright and J. Shannon	1884-85- Wm. H. Scoles
1864- T.N. Barkdull and J. Shannon	1886-88- George B. Wiltsie
1865-66- T.N. Barkdull	1888-94- John C. Shaw
1867-68- Ambrose Hollington	1894-99- David H. Bailey
1869- J.S. Kalb	1899-1902- Daniel Stecker
1870-71- John H. Wilson	1902-03- W.T. Dumm
1872-75- N.B.C. Love	1903-05- George Matthews
1876-78- Joseph H. Bethards	1905-07- Grant W. Sower
1879- L.R. Clark and T.J. Pope	1907-09- W.W. Constien
	1909-13- Edwin J. Webster

Perrysburg Station, Toledo District, West Ohio Conference

1913-15- Stewart Baumgardner	1925-27- Erwin A. Strother
1915-18- Daniel Carter	1927-32- Sheridan T. Walker
1918-25- Wm. H. Spybey	1932-37- Peter C. Wolf
	1937-39- Willoughby N. Shank

Perrysburg Station, Toledo District, Ohio Conference

1939-44- Clinton W. Swengel	1944--Cecil Daniel Smith
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1945-46 CHURCH OFFICERS

Church School Superintendent James McAuley
 Woman's Society of Christian Service, President,
 Mrs. Howard Cummins
 Wesleyan Service Guild, President, Miss Eunice Davis
 Board of Education, Chairman James McAuley
 Board of Missions, Chairman Clair Speck
 Financial Secretary-Treasurer Mrs. Olin Phillips
 Benevolence Treasurer Charles Schneider
 Communion Stewards . Mr. and Mrs. Chester Chappell
 Recording Steward J. Lindsay Johnson
 Lay Delegate, Annual Conference . . . James McAuley
 Reserve Lay Delegate, Annual Conference, Wilson Kohl
 Church Organist Miss Ila Carpenter
 Senior Choir President Frank Cahill
 Senior Choir Director Loren B. Peters

Board of Trustees

Wm. J. Veitch (Ch.)	Elmer Henry	L.E. Jacobs
Dr. D.R. Canfield	James McAuley	Wilson Kohl
R.R. Hartshorn	Clair Speck	Asa Lehman

FORMER LIVING PASTORS



Rev. Wm. H. Spybey
Pastor 1918-25



Rev. Peter C. Wolf
Pastor 1932-37



Rev. Sheridan T. Walker
Pastor 1927-32



Rev. Clinton W. Swengel
Pastor 1939-44



Rev. Erwin A. Strother
Pastor 1925-27

125th Anniversary Program

September 9-16, 1945

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 9th at 10:45 A.M. - SERVICE OF WORSHIP

The Rev. Cecil D. Smith, Minister, Presiding

Organist: Miss Ila Carpenter

Choir Director: Mr. Loren B. Peters

Soloist: Mrs. Yvonne McNab

Sermon by Dr. Rollin H. Walker, Professor-Emeritus of Bible, Ohio Wesleyan University.

Dedication of Cross and Candlesticks, Candelabra and Flower Vases, and New Choir Robes

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12th - HOMECOMING DAY

4:00 P.M. - Pilgrimage to Graves of Pioneer Methodists, under direction of Dr. D.R. Canfield.

Tributes and Decoration of Graves of Major and Mother Amos Spafford, Aurora and Mrs. Mary Spafford, Peter Cranker, Mrs. Rebecca McKnight, Dr. and Mrs. H.B.C. Love, William Barton, A.G. Williams, Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Carter and John Yeager.

6:00 P.M. - Fellowship Supper at Ft. Meigs Shelter House

8:00 P.M. - Homecoming Service at the Church. The Rev. William H. Spybey Presiding.

Favorite Hymns of Former Living Pastors.

Soloist: Mrs. Maltbie Brown. Organist, Mrs. Elbert Williams.

Recognition of Veteran Members.

Dedication of Memorials.

Greetings from Former Living Pastors: The Reverends William H. Spybey, E.A. Strotner, Sheridan T. Walker, Peter C. Wolf, and Clinton W. Swengel.

THURSDAY, October 11th COMMUNITY DAY

6:30 P.M. - Civic Dinner, served by the Woman's Society.

William J. Veitch, Toastmaster.

1. "The Church and Civic Government," Mayor S.O. Richardson.

2. "The Church and the Public Schools." Superintendent E.D. Jarvis.

3. "The Church and Community Life," Mr. J.F. Brandhuber.

4. "The Churches Working Together," the Rev. G.F. Mace.

8:00 P.M. - Historical Play: "Faith of Our Fathers."

Written by the Rev. Cecil D. Smith.

Production directed by Mr. Robert J. Barber.

Orchestra under direction of Mr. John Christman

DR. ROLLIN H. WALKER
 Professor - Emeritus of English Bible, Ohio Wesleyan University; author of many books; popular Youth Institute teacher; "Advocate" writer on the Uniform Lessons; patron saint of many students.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th - WOMEN'S DAY

1:00 P.M. - Woman's Society of Christian Service Luncheon
 Business Meeting and Program.
 Talk on "Arizona Indians" by Mrs. Clair Speck.
 Dedication of the Church Parlor to Pioneer Methodist Women.
 Dedication of the painting, "The Wyandot Mission",
 by Dr. N.B.C. Love

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 16th - 10:45 A.M. - SERVICE OF WORSHIP
 The Rev. F. Bringle McIntosh, District Superintendent, Presiding.
 Solo: "Ave Maria" (Kahn) with violin obligato.

Mrs. Wells W. Jenney and 1/Sgt. Wells W. Jenney
 Burning of the Church mortgage.

Sermon by Bishop H. Lester Smith of the Ohio Area.

8:00 P.M. UNION YOUTH SERVICE.

Solo by Miss Wilma Schwandt.

Instrumental music by Miss Jane Kazmaier, electric vibraphone,
 and Miss Mary Jane Greiner, accordion.

Address by Dr. T.T. Brumbaugh, Executive Secretary of the Detroit
 Council of Churches.



DR. THOBURN T. BRUMBAUGH

Executive Secretary of the Detroit Council of Churches; formerly Director of the Wesley Foundation in Japan and Missionary of the Methodist Church to Students of the Japanese Empire, 1924-41; author and lecturer on Japan and the Orient.

VETERAN MEMBERS

Sixty Years

1879- Mrs. Emma Eberly

1885- Mrs. Clara (A.R.) Williams

Fifty Years

1887- A. Russell Williams

1893- Fred Conklin

1892- William J. Veitch

1893- Hallie Blinn

1892- Mrs. Edith Champney

1895- Mrs. Gertrude (Wm.) Veitch

1892- Charles Maddy (away twelve years)

Forty Years

1899- Mrs. Clara (D.G.) Holbrook

1901- Charles Leber

Mrs. Lillian (Alfred) Neiderhouse

Carl Thomas

Mrs. Ida (Fred) Schneider

Percy Thomas

1900- Mrs. Bess (R.R) Hartshorn

1902- Mrs. Sarah L. (John) Yeager

Ray R. Hartshorn

Harry Thomas

Mrs. Clara (F.) Johnson

1903- Mrs. Addie Kleeberger

Mrs. Emma Thomas

Mrs. Hallie (Dan) Neiderhouse

Mrs. Alta Blinn Witzler

1904- Mrs. Minnie Hanson

1905- Mrs. Sarah Burch

Thirty Years

Miss Cora Carter	Mrs. Emma (F.) Mandell
Dr. D.R. Canfield	James Mallon
Mrs. Della (D.R.) Canfield	Mrs. Nellie (James) Malion
Donald Canfield	Daniel Neiderhouse
Sam Davis	Mrs. Nellie Rogers
Mrs. Agnes (Sam) Davis	Charles J. Schneider
Mrs. Madelyn (Lee) Hartshorn	Mrs. Hilda (C.J.) Schneider
Charles Holbrook	Edgar Thomas
Mrs. Flora Huffman	Mrs. Mary W. Tanneyhill
Miss Irene LaFarree	Miss Gertrude Thornton
Mrs. Evelyn (J.L.) Johnson	Basil Trombla
Mrs. Della (C.R.) Lindsay	Mrs. Myrtle (Basil) Trombla
Carey R. Lindsay	Mrs. Clara (James) Whitmore
Mrs. Inez Lownsbury	Miss Blanche Whitmore
Mrs. Esther J. (J.J.) Kile	Mrs. Lillian (Elbert) Williams
	Elbert Williams

Twenty-five Years

Mrs. Ruth B. (Paul) Arnold	Mrs. Dorothy (Clarence) Jacobs
Mrs. Jessie (Howard) Cummins	Mrs. Lulu (Olin) Phillips
Charles L. DeVerna	Mrs. June (Paul) Ritcher
Mrs. Mabel (C.L.) DeVerna	Mrs. Susan Shue
Miss Lottie Fink	Mrs. Helen (P.C.) Sutter
Miss Edna Hartsing	Mrs. Nina (Percy) Thomas
	Mrs. Nellie (Carl) Thomas

Oldest Living Member

Mrs. Susan Shue, aged 91.

Government Restrictions limit these pages. The roll of full members will be mimeographed separately.



The Mary W. Tanneyhill Bible Class

125th ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEES

GENERAL AND PROGRAM

Pastor, Chairman James McAuley	Mrs. Howard Cummins Mrs. John Maddy	Wilson Kohl Charles Schneider
	William J. Veitch	Mrs. John Yeager

CHURCH PARLOR

Mrs. Floyd Sanders, Chairman
 Walls: Mrs. W.J. Veitch and the Tanneyhill Class.
 Floor: Mrs. Olin Phillips, Mrs. Frank Cahill, E.D. Jarvis, David Jarvis.
 Drapes: Mrs. Clair Speck, Mrs. Ralph Ford, Mrs. Fred Luebben, Mrs. Philip Sutter.
 Furniture: Rev. C.D. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Chester Chappell, Howard Cummins, Miss Eunice Davis, Mrs. John Maddy
 Folding Chairs: Mrs. John Yeager and the Tanneyhill Class.
 Lamps: The Wesleyan Service Guild.
 Door: Charles Braun and Frederick Mandell.

HISTORY AND DRAMA

Dr. D.R. Canfield	Rev. Cecil D. Smith
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INVITATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS

Mrs. John Yeager, Chairman Howard Cummins	Miss Munice Davis J.L. Jonnson	Mrs. P.C. Sutter Mrs. Alfred Neiderhouse
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PILGRIMAGE TO GRAVES OF PIONEER METHODISTS

Dr. D.R. Canfield and the Flower Committee

FELLOWSHIP

Mrs. Joshua Lehman, Chairman Mrs. Paul Evans Mrs. J.L. Johnson	Mrs. Paul Arnold Mrs. Leslie Charles Miss Betty Kuemn Mrs. Elbert Williams	Miss Betty Britten Mrs. Howard Cummins Mrs. Fred O'Leary
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FLOWERS

Miss Florence Kruse, Chairman Miss Betty Britten	Mrs. Gordon Chappell Miss Helen Williams
---	---

MUSIC

Miss Betty Kuehn, Chairman Dr. D.R. Canfield Mrs. Fred Luebben	Miss Betty Britten Frank Cahill Walter Livingston	John Christman Mrs. E.D. Jarvis Charles Schneider
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ORCHESTRA

John Christman	Boren B. Peters
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DRAMA PRODUCTION

Robert Baroer, Director	Donald Canfield The Wesleyan Service Guild
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CIVIC DINNER

Mrs. Charles Schneider, Chairman, for the Woman's Society

MEMORIALS AND GIFTS

The Pastor, Chairman	James McAuley
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Mrs. A.R. Williams

EXHIBIT

1912532

Mrs. D.L. Norby, Chairman

Rev. Roy B. Leedy

John Speck

PUBLICITY

The Pastor, Chairman

Mrs. E.L. Wenz

Mrs. L.M. Hart

ANNIVERSARY BOOKLET

The Pastor, Chairman

Mrs. Margaret Mather

Miss Adelyn Kleeberger

PHOTOGRAPHY

John Christman

Joe Jackson

William French

Dayne Cummings

We are especially indebted to Mrs. Margaret Mather for the exacting typing of the copy for this booklet; to Dr. D.R. Canfield for his historical research; to Robert Barber for directing the historical play; and to all who have served on the various committees and taken part in the program and play.

125th Anniversary Memorials and Gifts

CHURCH PARLOR

Dedicated to the Pioneer Women of Perrysburg Methodism
 By the Woman's Society of Christian Service, the Mary W. Tanneyhill
 Bible Class and the Wesleyan Service Guild

BRONZE CROSS AND CANDLESTICKS

In memory of Mr. and Mrs. Franklin M. Carter
 by their Daughter, Cora

CHOIR ROBE FUND

A gift in memory of the Oliver Thompson Family
 By Mrs. Ida West

CANDELABRA AND FLOWER VASES

By the Misses Irene LaFarree and Gertrude
 Thornton

SILVER COMMUNION TRAY AND GLASSES

In memory of John Orin Yeager, by his Wife,
 Mrs. Sadie Yeager

PAINTING OF "THE WYANDOT MISSION" by Dr. N.B.C. Love

In Memory of Dr. N.B.C. Love, by his Daughter, Mrs. Emma Eberly

PICTUROL PROJECTOR, SCREEN AND FILMS

By the Board of Education

CANDLE LIGHTER

By the Beginners' Department

PULPIT BIBLE MARKER

By the Wesleyan Service Guild

GUEST REGISTER STAND

By the High School Manual Arts Department

The Church School on Palm Sunday, 1945



PRIMARY DEPARTMENT

Margaret Thrailkill,
Superintendent
Teachers: Mrs. Elmer
Schaller, Mrs. Howard
Cummins, Mrs. James
McAuley.

TWO JR.-INT. CLASSES

Teachers: Mrs. Paul
Evans and Mrs. Olin
Phillips.



TWO JR.-INT. CLASSES

Teachers: Miss Eunice
Davis, Miss Vivian
Williams.

Membership Classes, Palm Sunday, 1945

MEMBERSHIP CLASSES

Received by Dr. F. Bringle McIntosh, D.S., on Palm Sunday, 1945, after training by the Pastor.



THE BEGINNERS DEPT.

Miss Helen Williams,
Superintendent.
Assistants, Mrs.
Clair Speck, Miss
Shirley Brigham.



THE HIGH SCHOOL CLASS

Mrs. E.D. Jarvis,
teacher.

James McAuley,
General Supt.
in the church
parlor

HONOR ROLL OF NATIONAL SERVICE

GOLD STAR

Elbert Williams, Jr.

Delmar Harmon

John Christman
Mahlon Keivel

HONORABLY DISCHARGED

Roland Cookson
Roland Dale Shue
Max E. EltingRoland Henry
Merritt Gordon Thomas

Charles Agee
Frederick Agee
William J. Anderson
Daniel J. Beck
Philip Ballantyne
Harold Bentley
Thomas Dale Brigode
Richard H. Britten
James Caldwell
Marion Canode
Gordon C. Chappell
Floyd E. Charles
Jay G. Charles
John R. Charles
Eleanor Christman
William J. Christman
Edwin J. Cole
Floyd S. Cole

IN ACTIVE SERVICE

Roy W. Cole
Carlton V. Cookson
Rex F. Cookson
George Dartt
John W. Dunbar
Ruth Dunbar
Jay D. Edmonds
Alfred E. Fahrer
David Fought
Stanley Gilson
Donald E. Halbert
Charles R. Hayes
Frederick Jacobs
Thomas Johnson
Karl Robert Keivel
Frederick R. Kindervater
Philip C. Kindervater
William R. Kindervater

Paul Kleeberger
Ralph Kleeberger
William R. Kohl
Richard A. Kruse
Harold Lehman
Charles Lober
William Lohr
Glenn Maddy
Robert J. Maddy
Barbara McAuley
James W. McAuley
Lloyd McClain
Jack C. Marriott
James G. Marriott
Robert Marriott
Lee N. Heiderhouse
Lloyd Heiderhouse
Donald E. Parrish
Carleton Paulette
Richard Carl Phillip
Harold E. Redman
Donald C. Reetz
Robert Reetz
William L. Russell
William E. Sanders
Charles F. Schneider
Glen H. Shue
Howard L. Shue
Lester E. Shue
Willard Shue
Donald C. Smith
Verle Smith
Carlton Thomas
Donald Thomas
Richard C. Thomas
Robert Thomas
Gertrude E. Thornton
Donald Young
William E. Young



The Roll of Honor and the Service Flag Viewed
by the War Service Committee: Mrs. John Maddy,
Chairman; Betty Britten, Rev. C.D. Smith. Absent:
Betty Kuehn, Mrs. J.L. Johnson, Mrs. Carl Thomas

2338 1

